

1. A printhead comprising:

a housing having an array of nozzles; and

said housing including a printhead memory containing data pertaining to said nozzles of said array.
2. The printhead of claim 1 wherein said data includes a location of at least one missing or malfunctioning nozzle of said array.
3. The printhead of claim 1 wherein said data includes at least one of a status or a location of said nozzles of said array.
4. The printhead of claim 1 wherein said printhead is adapted to be installed into a printer having firmware capable of reading said data from said printhead memory.
5. The printhead of claim 4 wherein said printer is adapted to use said data to format print jobs.
6. A method of making a printhead comprising the steps of:

providing a printhead having a housing including an array of nozzles and a printhead memory; and

storing data pertaining to said nozzles of said array in said printhead memory.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein said data includes a location of at least one missing or malfunctioning nozzle of said array.
8. The method of claim 6 wherein said data includes at least one of a status or a location of said nozzles of said array.
9. A method of making a printer comprising the steps of:

providing a printhead having a housing including an array of nozzles and a printhead memory; and

storing data pertaining to said nozzles of said array in said printhead memory, wherein said data pertaining to said nozzles of said array includes a status and location of at least one missing or malfunctioning nozzle.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of installing said printhead into a printer having firmware capable of reading said printhead memory.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said firmware reads said printhead memory and a formatter formats a print job based on said data pertaining to said nozzles.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said data pertaining to said nozzles includes a location of at least one missing or malfunctioning nozzle and said printer compensates for said at least one missing or malfunctioning nozzle by shingling.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein said storing step includes storing a location of missing or malfunctioning nozzles using an operator performing a standard functional test.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein said storing step includes storing a location of missing or malfunctioning nozzles using an automated detection system.

15. A printhead comprising:

a housing having an array of nozzles;

said housing including a printhead memory containing data pertaining to at least a location and status of at least one missing or malfunctioning nozzle of said array; and

wherein said printhead is adapted to be installed into a printer having firmware capable of reading said data from said printhead memory and passing said data to a formatter for formatting print jobs according to said data.